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28 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director of Personnel
THROUGH : Deputy Director for Operations
FROM :
SUBJECT : Recommendation for Meritorius Unit
Citation

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tions, for its collective superior accomplishments in an important and difficult research task under short time restraints.

2. The Agency is supporting the investigation by the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA). An important element of this support is the research contribution

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3. The staff of the HSCA is unfamiliar with Agency terminology and its records systems. Consequently, their requests often proved difficult to process expeditiously, being very general, presenting inadequate data, or being poorly phrased. Additionally, there was an absence of indicated priority for handling - a vital ingredient for an organization already faced with high priority requests from other government branches. The volume and continued lack of improvement in the framing of the submitted requests gradually led to an accumulation of unprocessed requests. This accumulation became an irritant in working relations between the Committee and those Agency personnel assigned to work with the HSCA representatives. was first given priorities

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on this work the second half of June, and when the Committee set a deadline of its own for completion of unprocessed requests an even higher priority was set for meeting the deadline. This involved assignment of extra personnel, intensive work, long hours and extra days while the work was handled. Viewing this effort against a background of recurring priority assignments [] in recent years, the burden assumes an even more meaningful quality.

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Under the pressures of the occasion, the members [] collectively tackled and processed a substantial accumulation of work requests, handling a large volume of difficult research so effectively as to meet the deadlines in question. As a result, a source of criticism on the part of a Congressional Committee was removed, the Agency's performance in support of the Committee's investigation thereby being improved significantly.

This dedication to the interests of the Agency, the immediate and total involvement in the work at hand, involving long hours and extra days, met an important deadline, and improved the Agency's performance in relation to the Congress. The superior results of this effort, and the collective contribution of the members [] warrant special recognition which this recommendation proposes be awarded in the form of a Meritorious Unit Citation.

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Attachment:
Citation

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• MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

for the superior achievements of its collective efforts in meeting a major research requirement for a Congressional Committee, under difficult conditions with short time restraints, requiring extended days and weeks, thereby removing a basis for Congressional criticism and demonstrating the Agency's ability to perform with high standards under adverse conditions.